



OFFICE OF SENATOR
Eulogio Shawn Gumataotao

38th Guam Legislature | *I Mina'trentai Ocho Na Liheslaturan Guåhan*

For Immediate Release
December 17, 2025

Legislative Oversight Hearing Focuses on Urgent Facility Repairs at DOC and Forward Movement on 2021 Prison Modernization Law

Senator Shawn Gumataotao convened an Oversight Hearing today regarding the state of Department of Corrections (DOC) facilities. The Committee on Public Safety, Emergency Management, and Guam National Guard (Committee) invited Attorney General Douglas Moylan and agency heads from DOC, Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA), Department of Land Management (DLM), Department of Public Works (DPW), and the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA) to participate in the discussion.

The agenda covered the Government of Guam-U.S. Marshals Service Agreement for the Management of Federal Prisoners and ongoing efforts to develop a new DOC facility in Mangilao pursuant to public law and legislative appropriations.

“Today’s discussion is intended to help keep Guam’s 170,000 residents safe,” said Senator Gumataotao, “Through responsive and effective leadership in support of DOC’s 245 employees as they work hard every day to manage more than 800 inmates and detainees.”

On June 24, 2025, the Committee visited the Adult Correctional Facility (ACF) in Mangilao where members discussed with department leadership the status of DOC’s 2021 Facility Master Plan and DOC’s ongoing efforts to address immediate facility repairs at both the ACF and the *Hagatna* Detention Facility.

Following their June 2025 visit the Committee met four times with representatives from DOC, DLM, DPW, and GEDA between the months of July and October, to move things forward on a new prison, particularly those issues concerning an approved survey map to start architecture and design work, financing options based on legislative appropriations, and a Request for Proposal for the A&E which was cancelled by DOC earlier this year and then resubmitted by DPW to the Office of the Attorney General this past October.

“My message to DOC leadership is this: It is one thing to resist public policy, but when those in authority lobby this Branch effectively and then do not have the discipline to follow through, why pursue changes in law in the first place?” said Senator Gumataotao. “The safety of our entire community including our DOC employees and the individuals entrusted to their care remains at stake if agency leadership is unable to execute on the policies which have been in place for several years now.”

Based on Public Law 36-57, which prioritizes the development of a new prison, Senators appropriated \$5 million for this effort in FY 2025 and another \$5 million in FY 2026. The Committee continues to support improvements to DOC facilities since the passage of Public Law 37-144, which authorized DOC to cover immediate facility repairs utilizing \$1 million of the \$5 million it received in FY 2025 for a new prison.

For more information, please contact Senator Gumataotao’s office at (671) 647-1409/1411 or via email at office.senatorshawn@guamlegislature.gov.